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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. SO 105132

CD NO.

COUNTRY Jordan

DATE DISTR. 16 January 1953

SUBJECT 1. Non-Participation of ex-Mufti Supporters in Anti- NO. OF PAGES 2
Government Demonstrations

2. Proposed Trip of ex-Mufti to Jordan

DATE OF INFO.

14 November - 19 December 1952

NO. OF ENCL'S.
(LISTED BELOW)

PLACE

ACQUIRED Jerusalem

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Competent American observer from a well-placed informant who has good connections in the Nablus District.

1. The supporters of the ex-Mufti, Hajj Amin al-Husayni, did not participate in the 14 November 1952 anti-government demonstrations in the Nablus area. Likewise Fa'iz Anabtawi, ex-Mufti supporter in Nablus, refused to cooperate with the Opposition or the Communists during the Nablus demonstrations and Salah Amin Salah, mayor of Tulkarm and a strong ex-Mufti supporter, maintained order in the Tulkarm area.

2. Faysal Nabulsi, a former textile merchant from Nablus and ardent ex-Mufti supporter, has been pardoned by Prime Minister Tawfiq Abu-al-Huda and permitted to return to Jordan from exile in Syria.^{1,2,3} Nabulsi consulted the ex-Mufti regarding Abu-al-Huda's offer and was advised to accept it. Nabulsi stated that the ex-Mufti has been encouraging all Palestinian refugees to return to West Jordan, settle along the Israeli border, and conduct nuisance raids into Israel. It is the hope of the ex-Mufti that such tactics will force the Israelis to agree to the 1947 partition plan. He plans to visit Jordan to promote this project.

3. Nabulsi, since his return, has been making preparations for the ex-Mufti's proposed visit to Jordan. Nabulsi has visited and consulted with clubs, organizations, and refugee leaders in various towns and villages in West Jordan and, as of 19 December 1952, had visited Nablus, Jenin, Tulkarm, Qalqilya, Ramallah, and Jerusalem in this connection. Tawfiq Ra'fat al-Husayni, another supporter of the ex-Mufti, has been engaged in similar preparatory activities.

4. The ex-Mufti, who is expected to arrive sometime in January (date unspecified), plans to speak to refugees and gatherings of the general public in the mosques. He does not plan to take up permanent residence in Jordan.

1. Field Comment. Nabulsi was expelled from Jordan by the late King 'Abdullah because of his support and association with the ex-Mufti.

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2. See SO-102047 in which it was reported that Abu-al-Huda was attempting to win support from the ex-Mufti by rescinding various political banishments, one of which was Nabulsi's.
3. Source Comment. In informant's opinion, Nabulsi, who devoted practically his entire fortune to the ex-Mufti's cause during the Mandate period, may be named Mutassarif of Nablus to fill the position vacated by Ihsan Hashim. Hashim recently became Under Secretary to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.